

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 DODE-00

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P R 212048Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON LAW OF WAR

1. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR BILATERAL
EXPERT CONSULTATIONS ON SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED AT CONFER-
ENCE SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 20-MARCH 29 IN GENEVA ON THE
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LAW OF WAR. SINCE THE TIME REMAINING PRIOR TO THIS CON-

REFERENCE IS SO LIMITED, IT OCCURS TO US THAT MEETING OF ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, SCHEDULED FOR TOKYO JANUARY 7-14, MIGHT PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR SEVERAL BILATERALS. WE REALIZE THAT LAW OF WAR IS NOT REPEAT NOT ON THE AGENDA OF ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE; HOWEVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PERSONS ATTENDING THIS MEETING ALSO WORK ON LAW OF WAR SUBJECT.

2. SUBJECT TO CONSIDERATIONS CONTAINED PARA 3 BELOW, WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF ADDRESSEE POSTS WOULD MENTION TO HOST GOVERNMENT INTEREST OF USG IN ADVANCE EXPERT CONSULTATIONS ON LAW OF WAR PRIOR TO FEBRUARY DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT LIMITED TIME AVAILABLE DOES NOT PERMIT US TO SCHEDULE AN EXTENSIVE TOUR OF CAPITALS BY STATE AND DEFENSE EXPERTS. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER SENDING EXPERTS TO TOKYO FOR BILATERAL SIDE-CONSULTATIONS DURING ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. PLEASE

INQUIRE WHETHER HOST GOVERNMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUCH CONSULTATIONS AND WHETHER ANY PERSONS HOST GOVERNMENT IS SENDING TO THAT MEETING ARE CONCERNED WITH LAWS OF WAR ISSUES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THIS INFORMATION AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.

3. POSTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME RESISTANCE RECENTLY TO USG SENDING FORMALLY ACCREDITED OBSERVER TO AFRO-ASIAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. USG HAS IN RECENT YEARS AND WILL AGAIN THIS YEAR SEND SUCH OBSERVER TO FOLLOW LAW OF SEA MATTERS. POSTS SHOULD EXERCISE UTMOST TACT IN SEEKING REQUESTED INFORMATION WITH VIEW TO AVOIDING ANY POSSIBLE NEGATIVE REACTION TO US PARTICIPATION. IF IN POST'S JUDGMENT, INQUIRIES LIKELY STIMULATE OPPOSITION TO US ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCE, DEMARCHE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE MADE.

4. FOR TOKYO AND NEW DELHI: IF AVAILABLE, AND BEARING IN MIND CONSIDERATIONS IN PARA 3 ABOVE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS EXPECTED TO ATTEND AFRO-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASIAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

5. FOR TOKYO: IF WE DECIDE TO SEND EXPERTS, WE WOULD NATURALLY DESIRE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH JAPANESE ON LAW OF WAR. RUSH

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